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**HISTORY OF MEDICINE
AND NATURAL SCIENCES**

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A
SCHEME
OF
MOHAMMADAN DYNASTIES
OF
KHALIFATE

BY
STANLEY LAYE-POWELL

B.A. OXON., M.A. A.S., CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION
AND THE NUMISMATIQUE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ORIENTAL CHIEF OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON
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LONDON
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1888

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B.A. OXON., M.R.A.S., CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOCIÉTÉ DE STATISTIQUE DE MARSAILLES
AND THE NUMISMATISCHE GESELLSCHAFT ZU WIEN; AUTHOR OF THE "CATALOGUE OF
ORIENTAL COINS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM," "THE LIFE OF E. W. LANE;"
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KORAN," ETC.

LONDON:
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A SCHEME OF THE MOHAMMADAN DYNASTIES
DURING THE KHALIFATE.

THE table of Mohammadan dynasties which I have here drawn up requires little explanation. Its objects and uses are obvious. It has come to be published because I have tested it during some six years of coin-work, and have found it a decided help; and what is of use to one student in MS. may be of use to many in type. I know from personal experience how difficult it is to keep the relative positions of the various Mohammadan dynasties clearly defined in one's mind; and in the attribution of coins with obscure princes' names it is often essential to bear in mind the whole range of contemporary sovereigns at a given date. The difficulty is considerably reduced when the names of these sovereigns may be collected by merely casting the eye across a chronological-geographical table such as I have constructed. The numismatist will find all the coin-striking dynasties within the limits of time assigned; and the Oriental student in general may find this map of the Mohammadan Empire instructive in its approximate delineation of the relative territorial extent of the various dynasties, its assignment of each dynasty to its proper geographical position in the Muslim world, and its attempt to indicate the interweaving

of the several houses, and their supplanting of one another in the various kingdoms and provinces of the East. It is interesting to trace the gradual absorption of the vast empire of the Khalifehs from the opposite quarters of Africa and the Oxus provinces. We see how the Khalifehs of Cordova were the first to divide the authority of the head of the religion, and then how the Idrisīs, Aghlabīs, Benī Tūlūn, Ikhshidīs, Fāṭimīs, and many others, destroyed the supremacy of the 'Abbāsī Khalifehs of Baghdād in their Western provinces, and how, meanwhile, the Persian dynasties of Tāhirīs, Ṣaffāris, Sāmānīs, Ziyāris, and Buweyhīs gradually advanced from beyond the Oxus, or Mawarannahr, nearer and nearer to the City of Peace, until, when the Buweyhīs entered Baghdād in 334, the Khalifeh ruled little more than his own palace, and often could not even rule there. Then a fresh change comes over the scene. The Turkish tribes begin to overrun the Mohammadan Empire. The Ghaznawīs establish themselves in Afghanistan, and the Seljūks begin their course of conquest, which carried them from Herat to the Mediterranean, and from Bukhāra to the borders of Egypt. When the Seljūk rule came to be divided among many branches of the family, and division brought its invariable consequence of weakness, we find several dynasties of Atābegs, or generals of Seljukian armies, springing up in the more western provinces of Syria and Diyarbekr and Irāk, whilst the Shah of Khwārizm founded further East a vast empire, which increased with extraordinary rapidity, and eventually included the greater part of the countries conquered by the Seljūks as well as that portion of Afghanistan which the Ghaznawīs, and after them the Ghōrīs, had subdued to their rule. And then comes the greatest change of all. The Mongols

come down from their deserts and carry fire and sword over the whole eastern Mohammadan Empire; the Turkish slaves, or Memlûks, of Saladin found their famous dynasty in Egypt; the Berber houses of Merîn and Ziyân and Ḥafṣ are established along the north coast of Africa; and the Christians are rapidly recovering Andalusia from the Moors, who had given it all the beauty and the renown which Spain could ever boast. And here the epoch is chosen for beginning the second part of the table, which will begin at the Mongol invasion and bring the history down to the present day, and which I hope presently to offer to readers of the "Chronicle."

The table is divided perpendicularly into eight columns, representing Spain, Northern Africa (*i.e.* Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli), Egypt, Syria, Mesopotamia (including part of Asia Minor), Persia, Transoxiana (or Mawarannahr), and Afghanistan (including a portion of the Punjab). The various dynasties have been placed as nearly as possible, not only under their proper geographical head, but in the proper portion of the space allotted to that head. For example, the Šaffārīs ruled in Eastern Persia (Sijistān and Kermān and Khorasān); hence they are placed in that part of the column assigned to Persia which is nearest to Transoxiana and farthest from Mesopotamia. So, too, the Buweyhīs, after beginning their conquests in the provinces of Persia more remote from Baghdād, finally advance step by step upon the capital and occupy it: the gradual conquest is indicated by four steps to the left. Generally speaking, dynasties ruling at different times the same province are placed exactly in the same perpendicular line: but the difficulties of arrangement and the necessity of economising space have brought about a certain number of exceptions. For example, the

Khwārizm Shāhs begin precisely under the place where the Ghaznawīs likewise began: but the latter began in Afghanistan and the former in Khiva. Their position is simply due to the difficulty of finding any separate place for Khwārizm which would not cut some other dynasty into two portions and otherwise interfere with the clearness of the plan. The same remark applies to the Seljūks of Rūm, for whom no satisfactory place could be found, and who are therefore very uncomfortably squeezed in beneath the Buweyhīs. Such occasional misplacements are unavoidable in a table of this kind, except at a great sacrifice of space and perspicuity.

Horizontally the table is divided, though the lines are not ruled through, into six-and-a-half centuries, an inch representing one hundred years. The date of the beginning is taken at A.H. 41, the year of the beginning of the Amawī Khalīfeh's, because the Mohammadan Empire was never really settled until this house came into power, and it would have been very difficult to indicate in any satisfactory manner the course of Muslim conquest and infidel rebellion. The table ends at the year 700 of the Hijreh, instead of 656, which is the actual date of the abolition of the Eastern Khalifate, because it is desirable to carry the various small dynasties of the seventh century to their ends, and draw the line of Mongol conquest right across the eastern half of the table.

The names and dates of the kings of each dynasty are given in the table, with the exception of those of the First and Second Spanish interregna, the Urtukīs, Bektēgīnīs, and Saldūkīs, where there was not space for their insertion. A full list of the numerous princes of the *First Spanish Interregnum* (i.e. between the fall of the Amawī Khalīfeh's of Cordova and the invasion of the Murābiṭs)

may be seen in Don Francisco Codera y Zaidin's excellent *Tratado de Numismatica Árábigo-española*, pp. 272—279; and the names of the governors who asserted their independence in Andalusia in the *Second Spanish Interregnum* (i.e. the few years which elapsed between the decline of the Murābiṭs and the arrival of the Muwahḥids in Spain), will be found in the same work at pp. 279 and 280. The dynastic lists of the several branches of *Urtukis* may be seen in my *Coins of the Urtukī Turkumāns* ("Numismata Orientalia," pt. ii.), or in my *Catalogue of the Oriental Coins in the British Museum*, vol. iii. pp. 118, 137, 139; and the *Bekteginis* are given in the same vol., p. 232, as well as the little that is known of the chronology of the *Saldūkīs*, pp. 113 and 114; there also the lists of the *minor branches of the Benī Zengī*, which could not be introduced into the table, may be consulted. Moreover, as the size of the table precludes the possibility of giving all the names, kunyehs and lakabs, of the various princes that are inserted, the more complete lists in my *Catalogue of Oriental Coins in the British Museum* should be referred to in the following places:—

Dynasty.	Vol.	Page
Amawī Khalifehs	i. . . .	xiv
'Abbāsī Khalifehs	i. . . .	xiv, xv
Amawī Khalifehs of Spain	ii. . . .	1
Benī Naṣr	ii. . . .	45
Idrisīs	ii. . . .	53 ¹
Aghlabīs	ii. . . .	56
Benī Ṭulūn	ii. . . .	64
Ikhshīdīs	ii. . . .	68
Ṭāhīrīs	ii. . . .	72
Ṣaffārīs	ii. . . .	75
Ṣāmānīs	ii. . . .	79 ²

¹ And in continuation Ibn Khaldun, *Hist. des Berbers*, tr. De Slane, Introduction, p. xxv.

² The Khāns of Turkestan are not inserted, on account of the difficulties of their dates and territorial supremacy.

Dynasty.	Vol.	Page
Ghaznawis	ii.	127
Khwārizm Shāhs	ii.	181
Buweyhis	ii.	191 ³
Hamdānis	iii.	1
Ziyāris	iii.	10
Kākweyhis	iii.	19
'Okeylis	iii.	21
Marwānis	iii.	23
Seljūkis	iii.	27, 40, 47
Beni Zengi	iii.	177, 209, 216, 227
Atābegs of Adharbījan	iii.	240
Selgharis	iii.	244
Fāṭimī Khalifehs	iv.	1
Ayyūbis	iv.	60—63
Memlūks	iv.	131—6
Murābiṭs	v.	1
Muwahhids	v.	31
Late Beni Hūd	v.	83
Beni Hafs	v.	51
Beni Ziyān	v.	69
Beni Merin	v.	58

The authorities used for the table are for the most part the same as those employed in drawing up the dynastic lists for the British Museum Catalogue, and duly recorded in the prefaces to the several volumes.

In a table full of minute details it is impossible that all mistakes should have been avoided, and I shall be grateful for any corrections of dates or positions, and for suggestions for any additions that might make a fresh issue of the plate more complete and accurate.

³ The complications of this dynasty render a reference to this list especially important.

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E R S

WEYHIS

Rukn
320-366

Muayyid
366-73

Samsam
372-88

1. Jishu
416-55

1. Mohammad

KAKWE

2. Feramers

SEL

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BECS

ALJAH

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Sahr 507

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1. Mahir
2. Dawu
3. Tughr
4. Mesu
5. Melik
6. Moha
7. Suley
8. Arslan
9. Tughr

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